AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 3 of the specification with the following paragraph:

Real-time PCR was performed as previously reported (Sharkey, M. *et al.*, *Nature Med.* 6, 76-81 (2000)). Products were amplified from 5 to 20 µl of extrachromosomal DNA in 50-µl reactions containing 1 x HotStart Taq buffer (Qiagen), 200 nM dNTPs, 400 nM primers and 1.5 U HotStart Taq. Two-LTR junctions were amplified by the primers Rc (5'-TAGACCAGATCTGAGCCTGGGA -3')(SEQ ID NO: 11) and U5c (5'-GTAGTTCTGCCAATCAGGGAAG -3')(SEQ ID NO: 12). Early products were amplified by the primers Ra (5'-TCTCTGGTTAGACCAGATCTG-3')(SEQ ID NO: 21 ~~SEQ ID NO: 12~~) and U5a (5'-GTCTGAGGGATCTCTAGTTAC-3')(SEQ ID NO: 13), and late products were amplified with U5b (5'-GGGAGCTCTCTGGCTAACT-3')(SEQ ID NO: 14) and *gag* (5'-GGATTAACTGCGAATCGTTC-3') (SEQ ID NO: 15) primers. The oligonucleotide probe for real-time PCR was as previously reported (Sharkey, M., *et al.*, *Nature Med.* 6, 76-81 (2000)).